

United States involvement was crucial. Franklin Roosevelt felt that future peace of the world would depend upon relations between the United States and Russia, he devoted much thought to the planning of a United Nations, in which, he hoped, international difficulties could be settled.

As the war drew to a close, Roosevelt's health deteriorated, and on April 12, 1945, he died of a cerebral hemorrhage. President Franklin Roosevelt led our country with integrity and nobility. We would be a different Nation today if it was not for his courage and leadership through difficult times. I am honored to be here today to reflect on his legacy.

TRIBUTE AND HONOR THE LIFE
OF ELMER ARNOLD BRAZELTON

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2004

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to, and honor the life of, Elmer Arnold Brazelton of Paris, Illinois. When he died on November 6th of 2003, Elmer left behind his lovely wife Patricia, four children, and eight grandchildren. Elmer was one of those people who was a joy to be around and his optimism and love of life were contagious to all of those close to him. His life, Mr. Speaker, was an excellent example of love for country and family. Elmer joined the National Guard in 1947, a full 2 years before graduating from Brocton High School in 1949. He attended both Light and Heavy Weapons Schools at Ft. Benning, Georgia and later joined up with the California Guard and was sent to Korea where he received two Bronze Stars. He left the service in 1953 and came home to his beloved Edgar County, Illinois. Over the next five decades, Elmer would raise a family, farm, manage a filling station in Hume, drive a school bus for the Urbana school district, and retire from the University of Illinois in 1993 after 33 years of dedicated service; 23 of those years spent as a Custodial Foreman. Elmer was a 50-year member of the Paris American Legion Post #211. He was also a valued member of the Edgar County Historical & Genealogical Society, the Edgar County Farm Bureau, the State Line Christian Church and the Weber St. Church of Christ to name a few of the many organizations that were important to him. I will never forget Elmer, his personality, nor his dedication to his family and his service to his community. I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the life of Elmer Brazelton who was a good and decent patriot; truly, one of the good guys.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last week, the week of March 7th, I was excused from the business of the House, however, if I were present, I would have voted in the following manner: Rollcall No. 57, "aye"; No. 56,

"aye"; No. 55, "aye"; No. 54, "aye"; No. 53, "no"; No. 52, "no"; No. 51, "no"; No. 50, "no"; No. 49, "no"; No. 48, "no"; No. 47, "aye"; No. 46, "aye"; No. 45, "aye"; No. 44, "aye"; No. 43, "aye"; and No. 42, "aye."

Mr. Speaker, I request that these votes be reflected in the appropriate place of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY
MONTH AND STOP VIOLENCE
WEEK

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am here this week, along with many of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle, for National Women's History Month and Stop Violence Week. This year's theme is Women Inspiring Hope and Possibility. Last week was Stop Violence week, coordinated between Lifetime Television and the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues. This week brought to my attention that in light of all these celebrations of how far women have come over the decades, it would be naive for us to stand here and believe that we have eradicated gender based violence. Statistics keep coming in, showing that the problem is widespread for both sexual and domestic violence, and victims fear reporting the crimes to proper authorities.

In my State of Texas, nearly 2 million adult Texans, almost 13 percent of the State population, have been sexually assaulted.

In Texas, every 2 minutes, someone is sexually assaulted and two women are killed each week by their intimate partner.

Approximately 31 percent of sexual assault victims reported that a family member also has been sexually assaulted. We must raise awareness about how we as society can take care of the victims of such crimes. An estimate of 82 percent of rapes and sexual assaults go unreported because of shame, fear, hurt and anger. Nearly 80 percent of those raped know the person who raped them.

Family and friends not only help their loved one deal with the effects of an assault, and must manage their own feelings about the victimization of someone they care about. The impact of such a traumatic experience is severe. Thirty percent of rape victims contemplate suicide, and 13 percent attempt to take their own life.

I have worked with formidable organizations such as Texans Against Sexual Assault, who works to bring voices to women who have been victims of sexual crimes, and helping them along an emotional recovery. Also, the Texas Council on Family Violence, which has connected more than 15,000 Texas victims of domestic violence with emergency shelter and protection.

I am proud to be here, and grateful to these organizations and their hard work. But this does not start here. Sexual assault and violence affects all racial and ethnic groups. These victims are ourselves, our families, neighbors and coworkers. Together we must take a stand and work together for women's rights. We must work on building a brighter future, and make gender based violence a thing

of the past. One week or month is not enough to do it all, but it's a beginning. Marian Wright Edelman, the founder and President of the Children's Defense Fund said, "Justice is not cheap. Justice is not quick. It is not ever finally achieved."

As a Congress, we come from different places and with diverging viewpoints. I want to thank all my colleagues, male and female, from all ends of the political spectrum who are taking measures to Stop the Violence. Working together, we can begin to make change.

HONORING CESAR CHAVEZ

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2004

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Cesar Chavez, who forged a legacy of service, conviction, and principled leadership that helped define a new decade of reform. Cesar began working early in life as a migrant farm worker during the Great Depression. He soon became involved with the Community Service Organization, a self-help group for Mexican-Americans, which sparked his desire to establish an organization solely dedicated to farm workers. His dream became a reality in 1962 when the National Farm Workers Association was established, and from that point on he dedicated the next 31 years of his life to pursuing social justice. He helped establish a 5-year strike by California grape pickers, as well as boycotts of grapes and lettuce that grew nationwide attention. Mr. Chavez will always be remembered and admired for achieving powerful change through this use of nonviolent activism. In honor of his many contributions to society he received the highest civilian awards from the United States and Mexico, the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Aguila Azteca. Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that Mr. Cesar Chavez will be honored and remembered for his lifelong contribution to not only the Hispanic community, but to all of humanity.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JAMES H. MILLER, SR., ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE FOLEY, ALABAMA, POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2004

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to pay tribute to James H. Miller, Sr., on the occasion of his retirement from the position of chief of police of the Foley, Alabama, Police Department. For the past 31 years, Chief Miller has served the families of Foley with a great deal of enthusiasm and concern for their well-being and for the well-being of the entire community. In the process of performing his professional duties, he has also gained the respect and admiration of everyone in south Baldwin County.

Following his graduation from the Alabama Police Academy in February 1973, Chief Miller joined the Foley Police Department and, as a

result of his hard work and dedication, became the first African-American officer to be promoted to chief of that department. His efforts in law enforcement and the protection of his community resulted in his receiving numerous awards during his professional career, including the keys to the cities of Baltimore, Maryland, and Tuskegee, Alabama. Additionally, Chief Miller was awarded a citation by Maryland Governor William Donald Schaefer in 1994.

In addition to his work in the field of law enforcement, Chief Miller has been active as a minister for numerous congregations in Alabama and Florida. He received his Bachelor of Theology Degree from Easonian Baptist Seminary in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1982, and his Doctor of Divinity Degree from the Tennessee School of Religion in 1996. During his ministerial career, he has served the congregations of Fannie Baptist Church in Alabama and the First Baptist Church of Warrington, Florida.

Finally, Chief Miller has been extremely active in the life of the Foley community, and has for many years been a member of the South Baldwin Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the Foley Boys and Girls Club, the Optimist Club, the Baldwin County Extension Advisory Board, and the Alabama Association of Chiefs of Police. He has also served as Chaplain for the Southwest Alabama Police Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Chief James H. Miller, Sr., for his tremendous contributions to the citizens of Foley and of Baldwin County. The experience and zeal he has brought to his job and the concern and compassion he has displayed for everyone in the city are unquestioned and unparalleled. He has indeed been a genuine asset to the police department and to the thousands of men, women, and children he has assisted over the past three decades.

Make no mistake, the chief's talents and experience in the department will be sorely missed, but I am confident he will continue to remain actively involved in the life of the Foley community for many years to come. Along with his many friends and colleagues throughout Alabama, I wish to extend to Chief Miller and his family—his wife Mary Jane; his children, James, Jr., Otis, Daron, Ronald, D.J., and Nicole; and his 27 grandchildren—much health and happiness in the years ahead.

HEALTH INFORMATION INDEPENDENCE ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2004

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Health Information Independence Act. This act restores the right of consumers to purchase the dietary supplements of their choice and receive accurate information about the health benefits of foods and dietary supplements. The Health Information Independence Act restricts the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) power to impede consumers' access to truthful claims regarding the benefits of foods and dietary supplements to those cases where the FDA has evidence that a product poses a threat to safety and well-

being or that a product does not have a disclaimer informing consumers that the claims are not FDA-approved.

Claims that could threaten public safety, or that are marketed without a disclaimer, would have to be reviewed by an independent review board, comprised of independent scientific experts randomly chosen by the FDA. However, anyone who is, or has ever been, on the FDA's payroll is disqualified from serving on the board. The FDA is forbidden from exercising any influence over the review board. If the board recommends approval of a health claim, then the FDA must approve the claim.

The board also must consider whether any claims can be rendered nonmisleading by adopting a disclaimer, before rejecting a claim out of hand. For example, if the board finds that the scientific evidence does not conclusively support a claim, but the claim could be rendered nonmisleading if accompanied with a disclaimer, then the board must approve the claim provided the claim is always accompanied by an appropriate disclaimer. The disclaimer would be a simple statement to the effect that "scientific studies on these claims are inconclusive" and/or "these claims are not approved by the FDA." Thus, the bill tilts the balance of federal law in favor of allowing consumers access to information regarding the health benefits of foods and dietary supplements, which is proper in a free society.

The procedures established by the Health Information Independence Act are a fair and balanced way to ensure consumers have access to truthful information about dietary supplements. Over the past decade, the American people have made it clear they do not want the Federal Government to interfere with their access to dietary supplements, yet the FDA continues to engage in heavy-handed attempts to restrict such access.

In 1994, Congress responded to the American people's desire for greater access to information about the benefits of dietary supplements by passing the Dietary Supplements and Health and Education Act of 1994 (DSHEA), that liberalized rules regarding the regulation of dietary supplements. Congressional offices received a record number of comments in favor of DSHEA.

Despite DSHEA, FDA officials continued to attempt to enforce regulations aimed at keeping the American public in the dark about the benefits of dietary supplements. Finally, in the case of *Pearson v. Shalala*, 154 F.3d 650 (DC Cir. 1999), reh'g denied en banc, 172 F.3d 72 (DC Cir. 1999), the United States Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit Court reaffirmed consumers' First Amendment right to learn about dietary supplements without unnecessary interference from the FDA. The *Pearson* decision anticipated my legislation by suggesting the FDA adopt disclaimers in order to render some health claims non-misleading.

In the years since the *Pearson* decision, Members of Congress have had to continually intervene with the FDA to ensure it followed the court order. The FDA continues to deny consumers access to truthful health information. Clearly, the FDA is determined to continue to (as the *Pearson* court pointed out) act as though liberalizing regulations regarding health claims is the equivalent of "asking consumers to buy something while hypnotized and therefore they are bound to be misled."

The FDA's "grocery store censorship" not only violates consumers' first amendment

rights, but, by preventing consumers from learning about the benefits of foods and dietary supplements, the FDA's policies are preventing consumers from taking easy steps to improve their own health!

If Congress is serious about respecting first amendment rights, and the people's right to act to improve their own health, we must remove the FDA's authority to censor nonmisleading health claims, and claims that can be rendered nonmisleading by the simple device of adopting a disclaimer.

In conclusion, I urge my colleagues to help establish an objective process that respects consumers' first amendment rights to nonmisleading information regarding the health benefits of foods and dietary supplements by co-sponsoring the Health Information Independence Act.

HONORING BENITO JUAREZ

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2004

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Benito Juarez, an influential Mexican hero who made an amazing impact during his lifetime. The son of Native American parents and the first president of Native American descent, Don Juarez worked hard to educate himself in law and to later become one of Mexico's greatest leaders. He established a new democratic government after the fall of Mexican General Antonio de Santa Anna, and he later helped to restore this government after the French military invasion led by Austria's Archduke Maximilian.

As a national hero and President of Mexico, Benito Juarez left a legacy of liberal reforms that helped establish Mexico as a more democratic place to live. His democratic ideals were further embodied in the Constitution of 1857 which gave the Mexican people their basic rights of free speech and press. Due to significant contributions to Mexico through his service in state and national legislature and as a judge, a governor, and ultimately a president, Benito Juarez is regarded as one of the great heroes in Mexican history.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LUIS A. Ferré

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2004

Mr. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great man and a great public servant. In his 96 years, Luis A. Ferré—successful businessman, art patron, and former Governor of Puerto Rico—has had a unique opportunity to witness, and influence, a period of dramatic change on his native island.

Ferré was born in Ponce in 1904, "soon after the transition of Puerto Rico from Spanish to American control. It was a time of great promise, and many Puerto Ricans believed they would soon enjoy the rights which they had been denied for so long. Ferré's father, a